

# National Congress Bulletin

JUNE-JULY 1958 • PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS • CHICAGO 11 • VOL. 25, NO. 10

*Dear P.T.A. President:*

AS I SHAPE my thoughts for a first message to you, I am deeply aware of the person to whom I am directing them. I see you at the parent-teacher association meeting—perhaps your first as president—in your own school, calling it to order with eagerness and confidence, or possibly with some uncertainty. You and I realize that within your hands lies a genuine power for good—a power that can be wielded well, indifferently, or not at all. It is power that must, for full effect, derive strength from all the innumerable currents reaching out to it. These currents will be generated by parent members in your organization who have active interests, talents, and special backgrounds of experience. Others will be generated by the teachers and school administrators

who want your school to be one of the best in the whole city or county or district, because they know how much good the school can do for boys and girls and for the young men and young women. (We must begin to think of the latter as “young adults” when we analyze statistics on youth expenditures, youth employment, and youth marriages.)

» Currents will also spring from many other sources: people in the community who seek your help, justifiably or unjustifiably; those who share your interests and with whom you will blend your efforts; people who promote ideas and create conditions that you must have the courage to oppose; and persons who are so indifferent that you must rouse their interest in order to secure their active support, for indifference is a negative factor that prevents positive accomplishment.

» Now, of course, you won't be alone in exercising this power for good. Your officers, your chairmen, your school people, and your other members and friends have knowledge and skill and dedication that must all be utilized in every possible way to benefit your children and youth. When this happens you have a genuine P.T.A.

» My warm and heartfelt greetings to you as many of us meet for the first time. May your year be active and productive, and may the wheels of your organization turn smoothly. May you and your co-workers see the effects of your efforts for young America so clearly that all others who look may see and feel and be touched in heart.

» Respect the organization that has given its confidence to you. Learn its history and development. Study the printed aids that will come to you from your state congress and the National Congress. Feel yourself a part not only of your own association but of a great force moving forward to secure better lives for children and to help them to grow into their greatest selves.

Sincerely,

*Paula C. Parker*

MRS. JAMES C. PARKER, President  
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

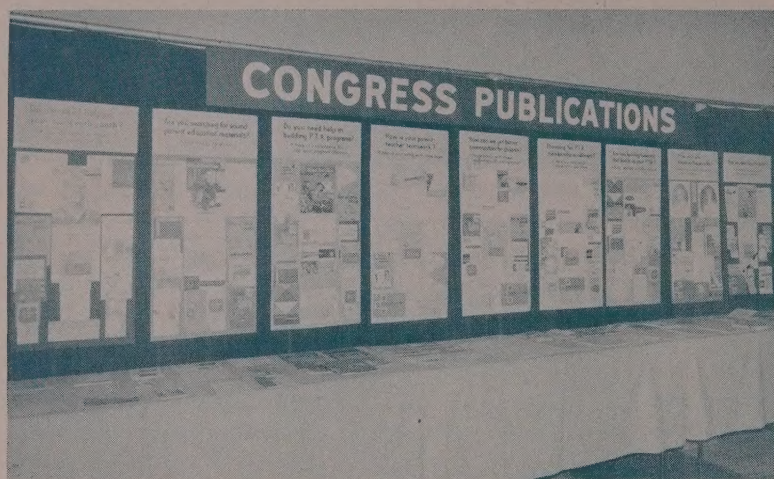


• Mrs. James C. Parker, newly elected president of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, at her desk in the National Headquarters. Mrs. Parker was delighted at the floral welcome she found, a gift of the National Office staff.



# NATIONAL CONVENTION EXHIBITS

## A Stimulant to Action



**E**XHIBITS at the national convention in Omaha, Nebraska, May 18–21, told the P.T.A. story with drama and flare. Between convention sessions, parent-teacher members streamed into the spacious, air-conditioned Music Hall of Omaha's modern Civic Auditorium to study these graphic presentations of parent-teacher achievements, tasks, and resources. From displays arranged by state congresses, national chairmen, and the National Congress, they carried away a stock of fresh ideas to strengthen their work back home.

One of the most popular exhibits (see illustration) was devoted to the *National Parent-Teacher* magazine and other National Congress publications as invaluable aids in carrying out specific tasks and activities. A series of placards bore such questions as:

- **Do You Need Help in Your Work with Youth?**
- **Are You Searching for Sound Parent Education Material?**
- **Do You Need Help in Building P.T.A. Programs?**
- **How Can We Get Better Communities?**
- **Are You Building Leadership That Will Build Your P.T.A.?**
- **Are You Planning for Membership Enrollment?**

Beneath each question were mounted Congress publications and articles from the *National Parent-Teacher* containing the special help needed for the particular activity. For effective work with youth, for example, indispensable publications included the study-course articles on adolescence from the magazine;

such pamphlets as *It's High Time*, *Working with Youth Through the High School P.T.A.*, and *What P.T.A. Members Should Know About Juvenile Delinquency*; and the membership leaflet *Don't Be a Dropout Parent*.

With delight, P.T.A. members discovered the wide range of assistance provided in their national publications. Frequently notebooks were whipped out to take down references.

### More About Publications

• Two new publications made their debut in the exhibit hall and received an enthusiastic reception. Providing practical guidance and assistance, *P.T.A. Room Representatives* undoubtedly fills a real need. Sales at the convention had to be limited in order to keep a stock on hand, but additional copies can be ordered from the National Office or the state congress office at five cents a copy.

Why is P.T.A. the most familiar alphabetical designation in our language? Why is the National Congress the largest voluntary service organization in the world? The answers are to be found in another new publication, an attractive ten-page booklet of general information about the parent-teacher organization. Simply and forthrightly, *The National Congress of Parents and Teachers: The P.T.A. in the Local Community* tells the warm, exciting story of P.T.A. aims, accomplishments, and future tasks. It should be a valuable aid in organizing new units and in promoting membership enrollment and participation.

A third publication is forthcoming.

Flyers describing it were available at the *National Parent-Teacher* and the Parent and Family Life Education exhibits. Titled *Guiding Children As They Grow*, this pocket-size parent education source book will contain selected writings from the *National Parent-Teacher*. Release date is set for September, and copies will be \$1.00 each.

### The Story from the States

• In the exhibits of the state congresses and the national chairmen, the story of parent-teacher action in 1957–58 was presented with verve and ingenuity. Some congresses chose to put the spotlight on one or two outstanding projects. Others presented a panorama of activities.

Looking to the future, *Arkansas* highlighted workshops scheduled for the summer. *Connecticut* featured its new publication, *Legal Protection for Children and Youth in Connecticut*, a most useful compilation of pertinent laws from five enormous volumes of legislation on education, child labor, social welfare, and public health. Delinquency prevention was stressed by *Wisconsin*.

Brilliant posters on legislation and scholarships for teacher education showed *California's* interest in these fields. A kit of study guides on the elementary curriculum, produced in cooperation with the state department of education and state associations of teachers, administrators, and school boards, was evidence of *California's* work on school education and of productive relationships with other organizations.

### NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

Volume 25 JUNE-JULY 1958 Number 10

Published monthly from September through May, bi-monthly June and July, at 700 North Rush Street, Chicago, 11, Illinois, by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. Subscription price: 30 cents a year. Entered as second-class matter September 27, 1946, at the post office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Additional entry at Aurora, Illinois, December 21, 1939.

### EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

#### Publications and National Parent-Teacher

Editor-in-chief: Eva H. Grant

Managing editor: Mary A. Ferre

Senior assistant editors: Mary Elinore Smith

Vera Dickhoff

Assistant editors: Eleanor Miller, Pauline Rhiner

Dorothy E. Welker

#### Administration Projects

Assistant editors: Cora G. Barron, Marian Kinney



*Missouri* geared its exhibit to the Space Age, showing five satellites successfully put into orbit in 1958. These were a workshop for council presidents and four new publications. On the launching pad *Missouri* had a sixth rocket: a workshop for presidents of high school P.T.A.'s. The flyer for this well-planned venture reproduced the cover of *It's High Time*.

*Maryland* called attention to its filmstrip, *Maryland, My Maryland*, by exhibiting some of the original art work for the slides. The congress produced the filmstrip and script to inspire a deeper appreciation of *Maryland's* educational heritage. *Massachusetts* drew attention to its Webber-Fiske Teacher Training Scholarships.

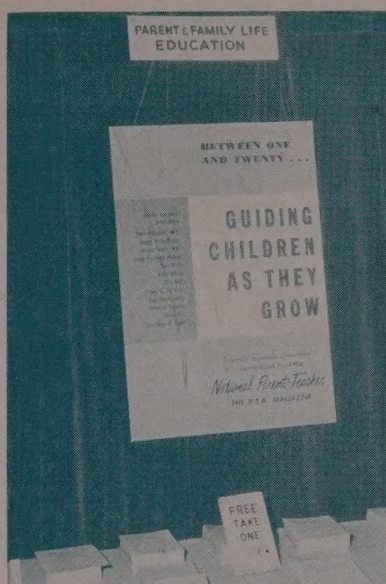
### Parent Education Prominent

• *Nebraska*, hostess state for the convention, brightened a state map with pictures of its president and district directors. Photographs and newspaper clippings showed parent-teacher groups in action. One arresting project was the Lincoln Council's bimonthly tele-talks on parent education, which are viewed and discussed by P.T.A. groups meeting in homes. After the discussion period a courier from each group hastens to the station to summarize his group's discussion for all viewers.

Parent education, a basic activity of any parent-teacher group, was prominent also in other exhibits. *Louisiana*, for example, beamed the light of well-earned publicity on "Join the Caravan," the parent education project of the New Orleans Council.

*Ohio* highlighted its work in promoting the program of continuous health supervision, while *West Virginia* featured its "college visitation project," aimed at acquainting future teachers with the P.T.A. *Tennessee's* exhibit was focused on its juvenile protection project, which included the production of a publication on community services for children and the sponsorship of workshops, study courses, and radio and TV programs.

National Congress and state congress publications were prominent in the exhibits of *Georgia*, *Illinois*, *Indiana*, *New York*, *North Carolina*, *Oregon*, *Texas*, and *Virginia*. For example, *Georgia*, urging parents "to put a fringe on home life with P.T.A. publications," showed a realistic surrey fringed with Congress publications. On *Indiana's* "progress speedway" raced tiny cars, each bearing a pennant with the title of a



- A national chairman's exhibit calls attention to a forthcoming Congress publication.

publication. A banner proclaimed every one "a winner in valuable information to speed your progress."

### Accent on Action

• With lively photographs, newspaper clippings, membership charts, maps, models, and other graphic aids, a number of states showed how they carried out their action themes. *Idaho* illustrated "Lights On for Education"; *Illinois*, "Forward with Our Objectives"; *South Dakota*, "The Child Secure Today"; *Iowa*, "Accent on Youth"; and *Pennsylvania*, "Our Continuing Concern—All Children in This Changing World." Other congresses that presented a general overview of their work were *Colorado*, *Florida*, *Kentucky*, *Oklahoma*, *Utah*, and *Vermont*. *Kansas* set forth its aims with a stunning blue and gold "Magic Circle of Cooperation."

*Alaska* showed the location and activities of its widespread units. The flowering of parent-teacher work in *Hawaii* was symbolized by hundreds of real orchids floating on an artificial sea, while cool statistics reinforced the message of the flowers.

Exhibits prepared by national chairmen had a threefold purpose: to demonstrate the kind of exhibit that promotes interest in the work of a particular committee; to show outstanding examples of committee work garnered throughout the country; and to provide sample materials helpful in committee work.

For lovers of the Pooh books—and who isn't?—the Reading and Library Service exhibit offered a special treat. There in all their loveliness, shabby and worn from cuddling, were the original toy animals that inspired Milne to create Winnie the Pooh, Eeyore, Tigger, Piglet, and Kanga. These priceless sharers of Christopher Robin's adventures in the enchanting world of Pooh were loaned to the exhibit by E. P. Dutton & Company.

### Cooperating Organizations

• At the invitation of the National Congress, the following organizations and governmental agencies sent exhibits: the American Library Association, the American Red Cross, the Boy Scouts of America, the Camp Fire Girls, the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., the National Association for Mental Health, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, the National Institute of Mental Health, the U.S. Department of Labor, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the U.S. Public Health Service. These groups provided information on their services in behalf of children and families. Available also were some free publications helpful in parent-teacher work. Among materials distributed by the National Institute of Mental Health, we were delighted to see reprints of "Who Is Delinquent?" an article that appeared in the *National Parent-Teacher* in December 1955.

Ideas, information, inspiration—the convention exhibits provided them in abundance, and parent-teacher members availed themselves of the opportunity to restock their hearts and minds for the challenging tasks of the future.

## Local President,

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- During July or August YOU will receive a MAGAZINE PROMOTION PACKET. This packet is intended for the person responsible for taking subscriptions to our official magazine, the *National Parent-Teacher*.
- The packet is coming to you because we're making the stencil that brings you the *National Congress Bulletin* do double duty. Hence we must count on you to pass along the packet to your local magazine chairman. Don't disappoint us!

Mrs. Joel L. Burkitt  
National Chairman  
National Parent-Teacher Magazine





Mrs. Wiener

From: Mrs. Milton L. Wiener, *Membership Chairman*  
NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

## A MEMBERSHIP

## MESSAGE TO LOCAL

## PRESIDENTS AND

## MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN

• Both New and Continuing •

# It's time to knock again on every door!

**WE ARE NOW 11,018,156 memberships strong!** Isn't that an imposing figure? And aren't you proud of what was achieved by the membership of your local association last year?

The number of members is important, because the more your P.T.A. grows in active, interested memberships, the more it will grow as a vital, constructive force in your community.

Indeed, every membership in a local unit shows that somebody at home or in school is interested in working for the welfare and education of the children and youth of the community. Every member, too, is a potential builder of membership in the P.T.A. When a nonmember hears a member speak glowingly of the achievements of the group, his interest in joining the P.T.A. is likely to be sparked. As membership chairmen, therefore, one of our tasks is to urge all members to participate in the membership enrollment and to tell the public what the P.T.A. means to the community.

I remember that when I was a local membership chairman some years ago we had in our state a dynamic, enthusiastic, and very vocal state membership chairman. She was sold on the ideas that memberships are the life blood of the P.T.A. and that the P.T.A. is a vital, important part of our lives. Because she believed so thoroughly in parent-teacher work, she inspired local chairmen to accomplish really wonderful things during her chairmanship. I

am sure you will find your present state chairman just as enthusiastic and just as eager to help. Watch for messages from the state membership chairman in your state bulletin!

### Planning Your Enrollment

Many membership committees include fathers, the school principal or his representative, a teacher or two, and the immediate past membership chairman. The work of a membership chairman and his committee is never finished; the committee starts in the summer to plan the enrollment and continues its activities throughout the school year.

#### Begin early to:

- P.** Prepare suggestions and materials; get the committee to discuss them and make additions or substitutions.
- T.** Tabulate the suggestions and materials decided upon and ready your plans for enrollments.
- A.** Act to acquire many, many new members and to re-enroll present members.

Have a goal decided on before you start to work. What the goal is to be will, no doubt, be agreed upon by your committee. Before September think up ideas to interest new members and to retain present ones.

### Do's for You and the Committee

**DO** look over the materials passed on to you by last year's chairman if this is your first year as chairman. They may contain ideas that have proved successful. Then add your own ideas.

• Membership increase last year—  
**305,526.**

• Let's make it **500,000** this year!  
We can do it if we knock on . . .  
**EVERY DOOR!**

**DO** use whatever has been successful in the past, because we have to reach many, many new parents and many new teachers each year.

**DO** read the material on membership in the new *Parent-Teacher Manual*, and suggest that the P.T.A. purchase extra copies of membership reprints for your committee. (Each P.T.A. may obtain one reprint free from the state congress office.)

**DO** subscribe to and read the *National Congress Bulletin*.

**DO** secure from your state office or from the National Office the membership promotion leaflets listed in this issue of the *National Congress Bulletin*.

**DO** suggest that the P.T.A. budget \$1.50 for a subscription to *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine* for the use of your committee. Committee members who keep up to date on child guidance and parent and family life education will find it easier to interest others in parent-teacher work.

**DO** read your state membership chairman's plan of work.

**DO** read everything you can find on membership in your state bulletin and other state publications.



## OUR GOAL • 500,000 NEW MEMBERS BY APRIL 15, 1959

DO ask your committee members to read these same materials.

### Plan for Publicity

Work closely with your P.T.A. president. He can help you a great deal in publicizing the membership enrollment.

Turn often to your publicity chairman for aid. Ask him to tell what P.T.A. members are doing for your community and your school. Dramatize events before they happen. Keep the P.T.A. before the public.

How about a spot announcement on radio? What about TV? Let people know what your P.T.A. has accomplished for the school and for the community, and what it hopes to accomplish. Tell your story forcefully and enthusiastically. Tell it often and in many different ways.

Select an effective membership slogan for the year.

### Doors You'll Want To Knock On

Personal contacts are very important! That's why we knock on every door. And here are some of the people you will want to interest in P.T.A. membership:

1. Parents with children in school (and also the uncles, aunts, and cousins of the children).
2. Parents with children out of school.
3. Parents of preschool children.
4. Persons who have no children but are interested in them.
5. Teachers in the school.
6. Former teachers who are still interested.
7. Other educators who are interested or can be interested in P.T.A.

"What does P.T.A. mean to me? It means the most effective media yet thought of to promote cooperative parent-teacher planning in the best interest of the child. It is impossible for the schools to function to capacity without such cooperation. We should never think of it as the parents' organization but as our organization for helping the child. As a school administrator, I say 'Thank heaven for the P.T.A.'"

—W. W. Wood, Director of Elementary Education, Davenport Community School District, Davenport, Iowa  
—Iowa Parent-Teacher.

"Through membership in the Indiana Congress of Parents and Teachers our citizens may join in pooling their thinking about the grave problems of education. It seems to me in this particular moment of history that public school education demands the combined talents of all our people, to penetrate into the educational problems that have been long in the making. With this combined thinking we can dissect through the trivial, the superficially exciting, the dramatic, and the glossy to the basic situation of providing the best education for all the children of all the people."

—Wilbur Young, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Indiana—Indiana Parent-Teacher.

### Don't Forget Your Own Association

Ask your president and program chairman to let you speak very briefly at every regular meeting. Prepare short "spot statements" ahead of time, changing the ideas and focus of interest for each meeting.

Remember, it *pays* rather than *costs* to belong to a P.T.A.

### The Membership Message

We membership chairmen all need to remember that we are extending to parents, school administrators, teachers, and other interested persons the *privilege* of belonging to an organization that has as its sole interest *the welfare of children and youth*. Help them realize the answers to the following questions:

**Parents**—(1) What benefits do they receive from their memberships in the P.T.A.? (2) Why is it important to belong? (3) Do *new parents* know how membership can benefit both their children and themselves?

**School administrators and teachers**—(1) How does P.T.A. membership help them personally? (2) Why is it important to be actively interested in the P.T.A. as well as to belong to it? (3) How does the P.T.A. help them with the children they teach?

**Children and youth**—(1) What benefits do they receive from parents and teachers who are members of the

P.T.A.? (2) Why is it important for them to learn about the P.T.A. from their own parents and teachers? (3) Do they themselves realize the value of the P.T.A.?

**YOU**, the membership chairman and members of the committee, will, of course, first need to answer these questions in the light of your own convictions and experience, thinking of each as it applies to your own local situation.

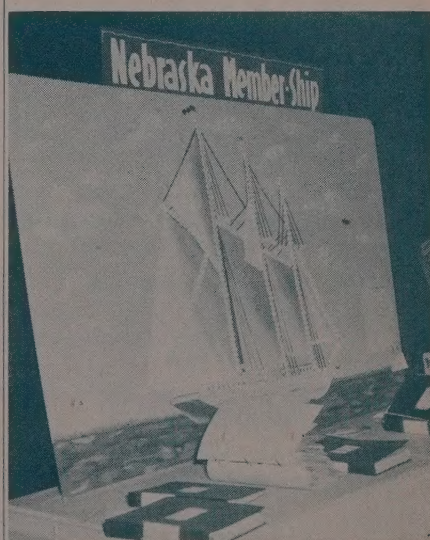
### Everybody Can Help

In conclusion, here are a few thoughts you might pass along to all members of your P.T.A.:

*Membership gives life to your P.T.A.  
The more life, the more work;  
The more work, the more success;  
The more success, the more members.*

All this goes on in our "Circle of Cooperation."

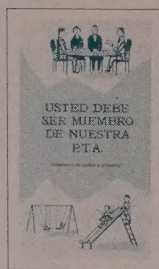
**REMEMBER**—*This year, 500,000 more memberships! We can and will do it!* It's up to us to gain more memberships than ever before by knocking again on every door.



• This striking "Nebraska Member Ship" poster was used by the national chairman of the Committee on Membership as a backdrop for her national convention exhibit. The ship is outlined in small discs, each representing a local unit in the Nebraska Congress.



# USE NATIONAL CONGRESS MEMBERSHIP LEAFLETS To Enroll P. T. A. Members



*You Belong in Our P.T.A.*—Every sentence begins with *you* to emphasize to readers the kind of participation and the privileges available to them through membership in the P.T.A.

*Usted Debe Ser Miembro de Nuestra P.T.A.* Similar to *You Are Needed in Our P.T.A.*, in Spanish.

*Why Our P.T.A. Is a Unit of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers*—Informs the prospective member that a P.T.A. does not stand alone in its efforts. Gives facts to show how the national organization helps the local unit fulfill its responsibilities in the home, the school, and the community.

• *Prepare now* to get your membership enrollment into high gear by checking the list and ordering the leaflets you need. Order from your state congress or from the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 700 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois. Enclose check or money order with your order.

## PRICE LIST

- Don't Be a Dropout Parent—50 cents a hundred copies; \$4.00 a thousand.
- The National Congress of Parents and Teachers: The P.T.A. in the Local Community—8 cents each; \$1.50 for 25.
- National Congress of Parents and Teachers—Statement of Principles—40 cents a hundred copies; \$3.00 a thousand.
- Safe Launchings, Happy Landings—35 cents a hundred copies; \$3.00 a thousand.
- You Are Needed in Our P.T.A.—40 cents a hundred copies; \$3.00 a thousand.
- You Belong in Our P.T.A.—30 cents a hundred copies; \$2.50 a thousand.
- Usted Debe Ser Miembro de Nuestra P.T.A.—40 cents a hundred copies; \$3.00 a thousand.
- Why Our P.T.A. Is a Unit of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers—50 cents a hundred copies; \$4.00 a thousand.

**DO YOU KNOW** that special membership promotion leaflets are available to you at nominal cost—leaflets designed specifically to help you stimulate the interest of parents, teachers, and other citizens in parent-teacher work?

• Do you and your membership committee members need more background information? Do you want to “define the P.T.A.” to the public? Do you want to add more persuasion to membership messages? Do you need facts for the publicity chairman and for other promotional purposes? Is your P.T.A. bookshelf equipped with reference copies of the membership leaflets? The membership promotion leaflets are tailor-made for such needs as these and the others you may have in mind.

Why not choose now from:

- ★ **Don't Be a Dropout Parent**
- ★ **The National Congress of Parents and Teachers: The P.T.A. in the Local Community**
- ★ **National Congress of Parents and Teachers—Statement of Principles**
- ★ **Safe Launchings, Happy Landings**
- ★ **You Are Needed in Our P.T.A.**
- ★ **You Belong in Our P.T.A.**
- ★ **Usted Debe Ser Miembro de Nuestra P.T.A.**
- ★ **Why Our P.T.A. Is a Unit of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers**

• These colorful and informal leaflets can give substantial backing to your membership invitations because, along with a cordial welcome to the P.T.A., they offer the reader ample reasons why the P.T.A. continues always to need the active interest, aid, and support of everyone who cares about children and conditions affecting their welfare.

• Here, to help you reckon your membership leaflet needs, are a few brief descriptions:

*Don't Be a Dropout Parent*—Directed to parents whose children are entering high school or are already there. Points up urgent reasons for belonging to the high school P.T.A. and for forming strong parent-teacher partnerships with teen-agers.

*The P.T.A. in the Local Community*—Shows clearly why P.T.A. membership has soared over the eleven-million mark and why its continued growth is essential to today's children. Covers such topics as who P.T.A. members are, where they live, how they work together, and the scope of problems confronting them. A new and unusually attractive ten-page, illustrated booklet.

*Statement of Principles*—A new, colorful leaflet containing the Statement adopted at the 1958 National Congress convention to replace the Permanent Platform. A trustworthy witness to the P.T.A.'s ideals and responsibilities.

*Safe Launchings, Happy Landings*—Announcement of the 1958–59 *National Parent-Teacher* study-discussion programs. Lists and briefly summarizes articles to appear in the preschool, school-age, and adolescent courses. Helpful in efforts to interest more persons in P.T.A. parent and family life education programs. Gives prospective members the comforting feeling that membership in the P.T.A. also offers opportunities to join study groups that can help them guide their children.

*You Are Needed in Our P.T.A.*—Outlines many convincing reasons why the grave responsibility of building “future citizens, strong in body, healthy in mind, and free in spirit” needs to be shouldered in a “parent-teacher partnership that is pledged to work for the best interests of all children.”

- A special request to local P.T.A. presidents!
- Please be sure to let your membership chairman see this issue of the “National Congress Bulletin.”



## Statement on Teachers' Salaries and Standards of Employment

*Adopted by Convention Delegates,  
May 21, 1958*

• The National Congress of Parents and Teachers continues to be deeply concerned over the shortage of qualified teachers. While recognizing that many advances have been made to improve the standards of employment and to raise the professional status and competence of teachers, it maintains that much remains to be done.

While on the average teachers' salaries have been increased over the levels in effect a decade ago, they do not yet compare favorably with the salaries offered professionally prepared personnel in other fields. Though salaries alone are not the whole answer to the teacher shortage, they constitute at least a major consideration, and increasing salaries should be the first effort in solving the problem.

We recommend that state congresses make every effort to insure salary schedules adequate to employ and retain competent, professional teaching staffs and that state congresses give ample consideration to such other local, state, and national factors as will contribute to the total solution of the problem of teacher recruitment, employment, and retention.

## Statement on School Libraries and the P.T.A.

*Adopted by the Board of Managers, May 1958*

• The National Congress of Parents and Teachers believes that the total education of every child (from kindergarten through twelfth grade), regardless of age or maturity, should include the experience that can be provided only by an adequate central school library under the guidance of a professionally trained librarian.

The National Congress recognizes that smaller schools may necessarily be limited to classroom collections and to the services of the teacher-librarian or, in extremely small schools, to classroom collections under the direction of the regular teacher.

The National Congress recognizes that primary responsibility for this service rests with the school board. However, the National Congress suggests that in a school where this vital service cannot possibly be provided, because of inadequate school revenue or an absence of policy, the P.T.A. may help establish a school library as an educational demonstration. The local unit should first secure the approval of the project from the board of education through the superintendent of schools. It should consult with and request counsel from the state school library consultant, the state department of education, the state library agency, or such professional librarians as may be available. Funds may be provided by the P.T.A. for the purchase of books and library supplies. The P.T.A. may also provide volunteer services for the initiation and implementation of such a project. As early as possible the P.T.A. should transfer responsibility for the service to the school board.



• The Tennessee Congress points up a number of membership suggestions with a group of unusual displays. Note the oversized P.T.A. membership card at the upper right side.

• ARE YOU MAKING PLANS TO OBSERVE  
CITIZENSHIP DAY ON SEPTEMBER 17?

**Please Note Change in National Parent-Teacher  
Subscription Rates**

**BEFORE September 1, 1958**

\$1.25 a year—U.S. and possessions  
\$1.50 a year—Canada  
\$1.75 a year—Other countries

**AFTER September 1, 1958**

\$1.50 a year—U.S. and possessions  
\$1.75 a year—Canada  
\$2.00 a year—Other countries

63d National Congress Convention—Denver, Colorado, May 17-20, 1959





# BULLETIN BOARD

Brief Items of Current Interest

- **ALONG WITH THE MEMBERSHIP INVITATION**, the Elizabeth Waters P.T.A. (Fond du Lac, Wisconsin) sends prospective members a cleverly worded letter introducing them to the *National Parent-Teacher* and encloses a subscription blank.
- **EVERY PARENT AND EVERY TEACHER**—1,435 in all—associated with the Eugene Field School, Chicago, Illinois, enrolled in the P.T.A. this past year. Mrs. Kenneth J. Marks, then unit president, attributed this record to fine teamwork between the membership committee and its chairman, Mrs. Harry Zimmerman; the room representatives, and their chairman, Mrs. Bernard Kite; and the principal and faculty.



● Telephone committee, Junior High School P.T.A., Fremont, Nebraska.



© Ledger Inquirer

- **THE ARCHITECT'S DRAWING** of the new headquarters building for the Georgia Congress of Parents and Teachers gets admiring looks from (left to right) Mrs. James Gordy, headquarters fund chairman for the Muscogee County Council; Mrs. Ralph Hobbs, national vice-president from Region III; and Mrs. Joseph Spano, director, Fifth District. The lot for the building has been paid for, and the Georgia Congress is raising \$100,000 to begin construction.
- **"PRESENTING P.T.A.,"** a weekly fifteen-minute radio show sponsored by the Lakeview (Oregon) P.T.A. over station KQIK, used panels, interviews, and skits to highlight P.T.A. activity in the community, state, and nation. In charge of the presentation was Mrs. W. C. Knechtel, Lakeview radio-TV chairman at the time, who reported that "at first people listened to the program in order to hear their friends on radio—then they listened because they were interested in the P.T.A."
- **TO GIVE TEACHERS IN THE COMMUNITY** an at-home feeling, parents in the Wheat Ridge (Colorado) Junior-Senior High School P.T.A. invited them to their homes for dinner before the first regular meeting of the year. Sixty-five teachers and their husbands or wives, who were entertained in fifty homes, then accompanied their hosts to the P.T.A. meeting.

- **A CHAIN OF TELEPHONE CALLS** binds members of the Junior High School P.T.A. (Fremont, Nebraska) more closely together. For the past two years a telephone committee of sixty P.T.A. workers has been calling all members before each P.T.A. meeting to invite them to attend. When contacting the 600 homes each month, the committee also makes a point of giving friendly explanations of the programs. Fellow P.T.A. members expressed their appreciation for the good-will efforts by honoring the committee at a recent meeting.
- **A CLEVER CARTOON CHARACTER** named "Ridgie" helps call attention to activities of the Ridgeview P.T.A. in Prairie Village, Kansas. Ridgie, a pleasant, freckle-faced youngster, appears on posters, notices, and other P.T.A. literature and has become identified as a "trade-mark" of the unit. Art Parchen, unit publicity chairman, created Ridgie and introduced him to students and parents at the start of membership enrollment last fall.